

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /015 R

66011

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-----160227Z 085485 /70

P 160289Z JUN 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 139589 TOSEC 060050

FOR ASST SEC TODMAN FROM KEANE

FOLLOWING REPEAT GUATEMALA 3764 ACTION SECSTATE INFO USUN NY
USCINCSO BELIZE BRIDGETOWN GEORGETOWN KINGSTON LONDON MANAGUA
MEXICO PANAMA PORT OF SPAIN SAN JOSE SAN SALVADOR TEGUCIGALPA
DATED JUN 15:

QTE: UNCLAS GUATEMALA 3764

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, GT, UK, BH

SUBJ: PROPOSAL FOR OAS PEACEKEEPING ROLE IN BELIZE

ATTRIBUTED TO U.S. OFFICIALS

1. INDEPENDENT IMPARCW AL JUNE 14 FRONT-PAGED UPI DISPATCH
DATELINED GRENADA AND BEGINNING, "US OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT
THE DISPUTE BETWEEN BELIZE AND GUATEMALA HAS CREATED AN
EXPLOSIVE SITUATION IN THAT PART OF CENTRAL AMERICA. THE
OFFICIALS, WHO ARE IN GRAND ANSE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OASGA,
SAID, HOWEVER, THAT US WILL NOT BRING THE SUBJECT UP FOR
FORMAL DISCUSSION.... THE US OFFICIALS SAID THAT, IF IT IS
NECESSARY, THE OAS COULD PLAY A ROLE AS SUPERVISOR OF THE
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PEACE IN THE REGION, AS IT DID IN THE CASE OF EL SALVADOR
AND HONDURAS AFTER THE SO-CALLED 'FOOTBALL WAR' BETWEEN
THOSE TWO COUNTRIES. 'WE CONSIDER THAT THAT WOULD BE A
USEFUL ROLE FOR THE OAS,' THE OFFICIALS INDICATED."

2. IMPARCIAL'S EDITORIAL, HEADLINED, "A STRANGE DECLARA-
TION BY UNIDENTIFIED OFFICIALS," SAYS THEY WERE OBVIOUSLY

UNINFORMED AND WONDERS WHETHER THEY WERE AUTHORIZED TO SPEAK FOR USG. EDITORIAL NOTES THAT WHEN GUATEMALA SIGNED OAS CHARTER IN 1948 IT ATTACHED EXPRESSED RESERVATION THAT "NONE OF THE STIPULATIONS OF THE PRESENT CHARTER SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS AN IMPEDIMENT TO GUATEMALA'S ASSERTING ITS RIGHTS TO THE TERRITORY OF BELIZE BY THE MEANS THAT AT ANY MOMENT IT CONSIDERS CONVENIENT." THEREFORE, EDITORIAL REASONS, OAS HAS NO LEGAL RIGHT TO INTERVENE IN DISPUTE.

3. EDUARDO RODRIGUEZ, FONOFF'S DIRECTOR OF BELIZE AFFAIRS, CALLED EMBASSY MORNING JUNE 15 TO ASK IF WE HAD ANY INFORMATION ON SOURCE OR PURPOSE OF STATEMENTS IN UPI STORY. WE TOLD HIM WE DID NOT.

4. MORNING PAPERS JUNE 15 (NONE OF WHICH RECEIVE UPI) DID NOT CARRY STORY. TWO PAPERS CARRIED BRIEF FRANCE PRESSE AND REUTERS REPORTS ON PRESS CONFERENCE HELD IN LONDON JUNE 14 BY FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN AND PREMIER PRICE. STORIES QUOTED THEM AS SAYING ACCUSATIONS IN GUATEMALAN COMMUNIQUE OF JUNE 12 OF QTE INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL QUESTIONS OF THE COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA ARE TOTALLY WITHOUT FOUNDATION UNQTE, AND AS EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT GUATEMALA WILL ACCEPT THE "CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSALS" THAT UK AND BELIZE WILL PRESENT AT JULY 6 MEETING IN WASHINGTON.

5. GOG ALSO MADE CLEAR ITS CONTINUED INTENTION OF ATTENDING THE WASHINGTON MEETING. ACTING FONMIN OBIOLS IS QUOTED IN JULY 15 PRESS AS CONFIRMING THAT THE NEGOTIATING SESSION UNCLASSIFIED

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WILL BE HELD AND DESCRIBING IT AS "DECISIVE" FOR FUTURE OF DISPUTE.
ANDRES UNQTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS, ARBITRATION, DISPUTES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ARA:JOHN F KEANE:JLP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770214-0782
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1dc27c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2123497
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSAL FOR OAS PEACEKEEPING ROLE IN BELIZE ATTRIBUTED TO U.S. OFFICIALS
TAGS: PBOR, PORG, SOPN, GT, UK, BH, OAS, PI
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1dc27c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009